

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/799,466

Examiner

Elizabeth A. Rielley

Applicant(s)

HO, RUN LIN

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the transmittal letter dated 3/12/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 3/7/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-21 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In regard to claims 1, 5, 15, and 19, Goldman (US 5672932) teaches a fluorescent lamp comprising: a base (12a; figure 9); a plurality of luminous tubes (82, 84; column 5 lines 30-50), each of the luminous tubes having: (a) a first curvature forming a bend defining a U-shape (column 5 lines 30-50); (b) a plurality of ends adjacent to one another (see figure 9); (c) a middle region positioned between the bend and the ends (not numbered; see figure 9); and (d) a second curvature (not numbered; see figure 9) which offsets the middle region from the ends; a bridge connection connecting each of the luminous tubes to at least one of the other luminous tubes (12a; see figure 5); an electronic ballast electrically connected to the luminous tubes (54; figure 6; column 5 lines 3-14); and a mounting member connected to the base (top part of 12a), the mounting member holding the luminous tubes in such a position so that: (a) the ends of each of the luminous tubes are adjacent to the ends of another one of the U-shaped luminous tubes (see figure 6); and (b) the bend of each of the luminous tubes is adjacent to the bend of another one of the U-shaped luminous tubes (see figure 6).

In regard to claims 1 The reference of the Prior Art of record fails to teach of suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 1, 5, 15, and 19, and specifically comprising the limitation: fluorescent lamp comprising: a plurality of luminous tubes, each of the luminous tubes having: (a) a first curvature forming a bend defining a U-shape; (b) a plurality of ends adjacent to one another; (c) a middle region positioned between the bend and the ends; and (d) a second curvature which offsets the middle region from the bend and the ends; a mounting member holding the luminous tubes in such a position so that: (a) the ends of each of the luminous tubes are adjacent to the ends of another one of the U-shaped luminous tubes; and (b) the bend of each of the luminous tubes is adjacent to the bend of another one of the U-shaped luminous tubes.

Claims 2-4, 6-14, 16-18, and 20-21 are allowable for the reasons given in claims 1, 5, 15, and 19 due to their dependency status from claims 1, 5, 15, and 19.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shea et al (US 5552666) disclose a plurality of luminous tubes, each of the luminous tubes having a first curvature forming a bend defining a U-shape; a middle region positioned between the bend and the ends; and a second curvature which offsets the middle region from the bend and the ends; but fails to disclose a mounting member holding the luminous tubes in such a position so that: (a) the ends of each of the

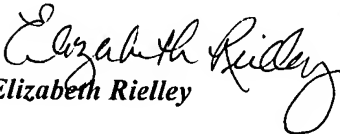
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luminous tubes are adjacent to the ends of another one of the U-shaped luminous tubes; and (b) the bend of each of the luminous tubes is adjacent to the bend of another one of the U-shaped luminous tubes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth A. Rielley whose telephone number is 571-272-2117. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar Patel can be reached on 571-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Elizabeth Rielley

Examiner
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MARICELI SANTIAGO
PRIMARY EXAMINER